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161. *Certain indispensable needs of Alleppey.*

Mr. E. J. Cheriyan Kunju represented the following indispensable needs of Alleppey :—

(1) construction of a bridge at Chungom and the completion of the Palace bridge :

(2) provision of one or two boat basins to admit of at least 150 kettuvallams :

(3) steam boat service between Kottayam and Alleppey, in consideration of the risk to life that would otherwise occur : and

(4) the restoration of the town dispensary closed of late.

Dewan's reply.—(1) The Chief Engineer expects to complete the Chungom bridge within the year.

In regard to the Palace bridge, the work seems to have been completed but the approaches require making up. An estimate for this has been called for, which will be considered when received.

(2) The Wadai canal has been sanctioned. It is hoped that that will to some extent relieve the congestion complained of by the member. Government are not prepared to construct more boat basins.

(3) If any Company comes forward with a definite proposal, Government can consider it. But Government cannot commit themselves to any view.

(4) On the unanimous report of the Darbar Physician and the Peishkar of the Division, the dispensary was abolished as unnecessary. Government adhere to that view.

162. *The Alleppey pier and bridge at Chungom.*

Mr. P. John represented the dangerous condition of the Alleppey pier and also asked for a third bridge at Chungom.

Dewan's reply.—A revised estimate for the construction of a new pier has been called for. The approximate estimate for the work amounts to four lakhs of rupees. The detailed estimate when it comes will probably exceed the original amount. It is awaited. Government think that the two bridges already sanctioned should suffice.

The Assembly adjourned at 1-50 P. M. and met again at 3 P. M.

SHERTALLAI TALUK.

163. *Roads.*

Mr. M. Parameswaran Pillai urged the necessity for roads in the Taluk.

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Dewan's reply.—The suggestion of the member is noted.

VAIKAM TALUK.

164. *Settlement grievances.*

Mr. P. C. Krishna Pillai spoke about Settlement grievances and said—

(1) that the rates of assessment fixed in the taluk were unduly high, and the *tharams* have been altered at the will and pleasure of officers since division into blocks:

(2) that taxes should be fixed only with reference to present area:

(3) that the same assessment has been fixed on reclaimed and unreclaimed paddy lands:

(4) that the Settlement department should not interfere with the assessment fixed by the Revenue department in the case of enfranchised viruthi lands:

(5) that the rates applied to garden and dry lands should be made applicable to the trees standing on them:

(6) that, when excesses found in registered holdings were treated as puduval, they should be exempted from the payment of *tharavila*:

(7) that the acreage value on puduvals should be reduced from five years' assessment to three years', and refunds granted in the cases of prices already realised:

(8) that the term *muppara* has been misconstrued into assessment at threefold:

(9) that the sites of groves, places of private worship, tanks for irrigation purposes, churches and burial grounds be exempted from payment of tax:

(10) that excesses over ayacut measurements in the case of Jenmom properties should not be treated as Pandarapattom:

(11) that the assessment of $3\frac{9}{16}$ fanams for Kettuthengu is exorbitant:

(12) that Jenmom properties as also properties charged with Kadama, should not be subjected to Ottivilakkam:

(13) that excesses over ayacut measurements in properties surrounded by registered holdings should not be treated as puduval:

(14) that the rice lands which have to be periodically left fallow should not be taxed in years of fallow: and

(15) that, in the case of Kanapattom lands, instead of levying Rajabhogam at the uniform rate of $\frac{1}{8}$ of the assessment, departures are being made by adopting the old rates.

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